

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16 4, wherein:

at an outer face side of said second plate, a raised portion which projects to an outer side from an outer face of said second plate is provided along to said one end side, and

said raised portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding is ~~can be~~ carried out.
3. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16 4, wherein:

at said end side of said second plate, a raised portion which projects to an outer side from an outer face of said second plate is provided, and

said raised portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding is ~~can be~~ carried out.
4. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16 4, wherein:

at an outer side of said end side of said second plate, a raised portion is provided, and

said raised portion is opened directed toward said outer side in a thickness direction of said hollow frame member and toward said end side of said second plate.

5. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 4, wherein said raised portion is positioned at a connection portion of said third plate and one end of said second plate.

6. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 4, wherein:

said third plate is substantially orthogonal to said second plate,
a corner portion of a recessed portion of the second plate is positioned in a range of an extension line in a thickness of said third plate, and
said raised portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding can be carried out.

7. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 6, wherein said corner portion is positioned at a center in a thickness of said third plate.

8. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 6, wherein said corner portion is positioned at another end side of said hollow frame member from a center in a thickness of said third plate.

9. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 6, wherein:

said raised portion is connected to said recessed portion and projects to an outer side from an outer face of said second plate, and

said raised portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding is ~~can be~~ carried out.

10. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 4, wherein:

at said one end of said first plate, a raised portion which projects toward a side of said second plate is provided along to said one end, and

said raised portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding can be carried out.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Withdrawn) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 19 ~~44~~, wherein:

a raised portion, which is connected to said recessed portion and projects to an outer side from an outer face of said second plate, is provided at an outer side of said second plate,

at said one end of said first plate, a second raised portion, which projects toward said second plate, is provided, and

said raised portion and said second raised portion are portions in which by inserting a rotary tool a friction stir welding is ~~can be~~ carried out.

13 – 15. (Cancelled).

16. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded, comprising:

said hollow frame member arranged against another hollow frame member to be subjected to a friction stir welding,

said hollow frame member comprising a first plate, a second plate substantially in parallel to said first plate, and a third plate having plural ribs and connecting said first plate and said second plate, wherein

an outermost rib of said third plate connects a midway portion of said first plate and an end portion of said second plate,

an end portion of said first plate projects beyond said end portion of said second plate, and

said end portion of said first plate is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool from an upper portion of said second plate of said hollow frame member to said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member, the friction stir welding is carried out between said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member using said rotary tool.

17. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16, wherein said outermost rib is substantially perpendicular to said first and second plates.

18. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16, wherein said another hollow frame member comprises a first plate, a second plate substantially in parallel to said first plate, and a third plate connecting said first plate and said second plate, with an end portion of the first plate of the another hollow frame member projecting beyond an end portion of the second plate of the another hollow frame member, and with the first plate of the hollow frame member adapted to be arranged against the first plate of the another hollow frame member, the friction stir welding being carried out between said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member and said end portion of said first plate of said another hollow frame member.

19. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 16, wherein an outermost rib at each end of said third plate connects a midway portion of said first plate and an end portion of said second plate, an end portion of said first plate projecting beyond said end portion of said second plate at each end of the hollow frame member.

20. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded, comprising:
said hollow frame member arranged against another hollow frame member to be subjected to a friction stir welding,
said hollow frame member comprising a first plate, a second plate substantially in parallel to said first plate, and a third plate having plural ribs and connecting said first plate and said second plate, wherein

an outermost rib of said third plate connects a midway portion of said first plate and an end portion of said second plate,

an end portion of said first plate projects beyond said end portion of said second plate,

at a connection portion of said end portion of said second plate and said outermost rib of said third plate, a rebate shape recessed portion is provided along to said connection portion,

said rebate shape recessed portion opens directed toward a plate thickness direction of said second plate of said hollow frame member,

a corner portion from said second plate to said rebate shape recessed portion is positioned at a range in a thickness of said outermost rib of said third plate,

said rebate shape recessed portion is a portion in which by inserting a rotary tool from an upper portion of said second plate of said hollow frame member, the friction stir welding is carried out between said end portion of said second plate of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member using said rotary tool, and

said end portion of said first plate is a portion in which by inserting said rotary tool from said upper portion of said second plate of said hollow frame member to said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member, the friction stir welding is carried out between said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member using said rotary tool.

21. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 20, wherein said outermost rib is substantially perpendicular to said first and second plates.

22. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 20, wherein said rebate shape recessed portion is a portion on which a fourth plate is provided, said fourth plate is a separate member from said hollow frame member, and said fourth plate is supported between said rebate shape recessed portion of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member.

23. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be welded, comprising:
said hollow frame member arranged against another hollow frame member to be subjected to a welding,

said hollow frame member comprising a first plate, a second plate substantially in parallel to said first plate, and a third plate having plural ribs and connecting said first plate and said second plate, wherein

an outermost rib of said third plate connects a midway portion of said first plate and an end portion of said second plate,

an end portion of said first plate projects beyond said end portion of said second plate, and

said end portion of said first plate is a portion in which by inserting a welding tool from an upper portion of said second plate of said hollow frame member to said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member, the welding is carried out between said end portion of said first plate of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member using said welding tool.

24. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be welded according to claim 23, wherein said outermost rib is substantially perpendicular to said first and second plates.

25. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be welded according to claim 23, wherein:

a rebate shape recessed portion is provided along to said end of said second plate, and

said rebate shape recessed portion opens directed toward a side of an outer face in a plate thickness direction of said second plate of said hollow frame member.

26. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be welded according to claim 25, wherein said rebate shape recessed portion is a connection portion between said outermost rib of said third plate and said end portion of said second plate.

27. (New) A hollow frame member adapted to be friction stir welded according to claim 25, wherein said rebate shape recessed portion is a portion on which a fourth plate is provided, said fourth plate is a separate member from said hollow frame member, and said fourth plate is supported between said rebate shape recessed portion of said hollow frame member and said another hollow frame member.